



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Washington Fish and Wildlife Office Restoration Programs

Notice of Funding Availability Fiscal Year 2014

General Information

Through a number of programs, local offices of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) work with partners to protect and restore habitats to benefit the Nation's fish and wildlife resources. We provide the following information to supplement our ongoing partnering efforts for both current and potential new partners to learn about and participate in Service programs that are available to provide both technical and financial assistance for habitat restoration projects.

Assistance with habitat restoration is available through the **Puget Sound Coastal Program (PSCP)**, **Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program (PFW)**, **Chehalis Fisheries Restoration Program (CFRP)**, **National Fish Passage Program (NFPP)**, and the **Western Native Trout Initiative (WNTI)**. For Program specific information, see Table 1 and pages 9-12.

A full fiscal year 2014 (October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014) federal budget has not been finalized as of the date of this notice. While we anticipate funding capacity to support habitat restoration and protection projects in 2014, we do not yet know funding levels. We will work to notify project partners regarding status of restoration projects as soon as possible following final federal funding decisions.

Annual Schedule

Service biologists are available on a year-round basis to assist with development of projects. However, to best evaluate projects, align them with technical assistance and funding programs, and meet fiscal-year contracting deadlines, we work under the action schedule described below and summarized in the Table 2. Please note that changes to this schedule could occur should funding to our agency be delayed for fiscal year 2014.

Project information is due **December 6, 2013** for most Service programs; partners interested in the National Fish Passage Program must submit their project information no later than **November 15, 2013**. Service interdisciplinary teams will evaluate all projects and make recommendations for further technical assistance or funding. Final decisions are made by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Office (WFWO) Manager or at our Regional Office in Portland, Oregon. The Service is supportive of projects that maximize ecological benefits, meet specific Program goals, and provide flexibility to our partners. Service biologists will work with project partners throughout this evaluation process and inform partners of the status of their efforts. Decisions regarding technical and/or funding assistance are expected in the spring or early summer of 2014; however, we retain the discretion to make technical and funding assistance decisions at any time. Service biologists will provide technical assistance and be involved in any future project implementation and post-construction evaluation for all projects selected for funding assistance.

Table 1. Program eligibility summary for locally administered programs.

	Puget Sound Coastal Program	Partners for Fish and Wildlife	Chehalis Fisheries Restoration Program
Geographic Focus Areas.	Watersheds by WRIA** 1-7, 11-18	Watersheds by WRIA** 1-7, 11, 14, 21-25, 28-31, 34, 37-39, 42-44, 48, 50, 62	Grays Harbor and Chehalis River basins. Watersheds by WRIA** 22 and 23
On-the-ground Work?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Outreach and Education?	Yes, if part of an on-the-ground project	Yes, if part of an on-the-ground project	Yes
Project planning, Feasibility, and Assessment?	Yes, if part of an on-the-ground project.	No	Assessment only
Maximum \$ per project	\$25,000-\$50,000	\$25,000	Approximately \$50,000
Cost share Requirement (also see p. 12)	Prefer 50%*, 25% minimum	Prefer 50%*	Prefer 50%*, Approximately 25% minimum
Minimum years maintained by cooperator/ landowner	10	10	10
Projects on Federal land?	Yes - preference is for non-Federal	No	Yes - preference is for non-Federal
Projects on State land?	Yes	No	Yes
Projects on Tribal Land?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Are Federal and State partners eligible?	Yes	Yes	Yes

* A 50% cost share is the same as a 1:1 cost share. In other words, if you are requesting \$20,000, you would need to have \$20,000 in match.

** WRIA maps can be found at the following link: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/apps/watersheds/wriapages/index.html>

Working Together

We recommend that you read this document in its entirety, and contact us for further information about these habitat restoration programs (see Table 3. Program Contacts). Service biologists will provide technical assistance and work closely with project sponsors to develop projects, conduct site visits to project locations, and evaluate projects for Program eligibility. The Service and project sponsors will work together to plan and implement projects, coordinate with landowners and partners, hire and run crews, and evaluate post-project compliance and performance.

If you feel you have a project that meets the goals of our programs, contact a Service biologist (listed in Table 3) to discuss your project. If we determine the project may be eligible for funding, the biologist will email you a project summary form. We use this form to consistently describe and evaluate projects. Service biologists will assist with project development and necessary summary information. We will accept other forms of project information, such as

applications for other programs, as long as they cover all the topics contained in our summary sheet. Your interest in our restoration programs helps us to continue to grow existing partnerships and learn about other restoration opportunities and partnerships in Washington so we can strategically allocate personnel and funding to maximize conservation benefits for fish and wildlife.

The Service offers many more opportunities to partner in conservation of fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats. Information on other Service restoration and recovery programs can be found on the web at: <http://www.fws.gov/wafwo/funding.html>

Table 2. Action Schedule

Action Date	Action
Throughout the year	Service biologists provide technical assistance to partners interested in project development.
November 15, 2013 National Fish Passage Program	Partners interested in the National Fish Passage Program must submit their project information no later than November 15, 2013.
December 6, 2013 Puget Sound Coastal Program Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program Chehalis Fisheries Restoration Program Western Native Trout Initiative	Partners contact program biologists and submit a project summary form or equivalent by December 6, 2013. Information previously submitted for the National Fish Passage Program may also be evaluated by other programs for funding. There is no need to resubmit a project for consideration by other programs. Project Information is due by email to the biologist listed on table 3, or to: fwoctap@fws.gov
The following dates may change depending on when funds are released to this office from Washington DC	
February 2014	Service biologists notify partners of priority restoration projects, those that may be supported financially (dependent on Congressional funding) or through in-kind services, technical assistance, or other substantial involvement.
Late Spring – Early Summer, 2014	Service biologists work with partners to complete cooperative agreements and other federal contracting documents and initiate required Federal, State, Tribal, or local environmental compliance and permitting. Funds become available upon completion of the cooperative agreement.

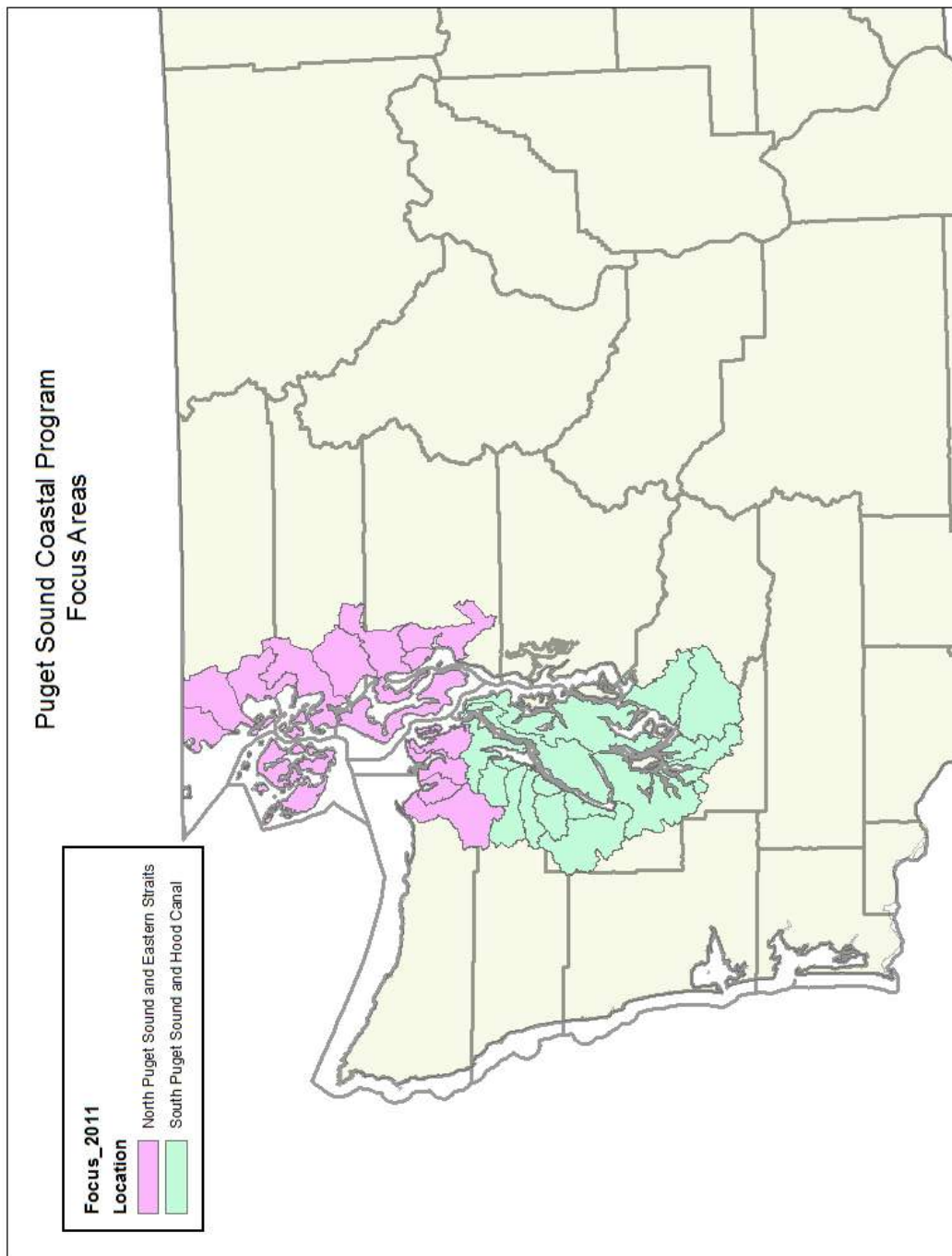
Who Are Our Partners

Any private individual, State, Tribe, nonprofit organization, community group (such as a watershed team), land trust, corporation, individual entity, or Federal entity (only for some Programs, see Table 1).

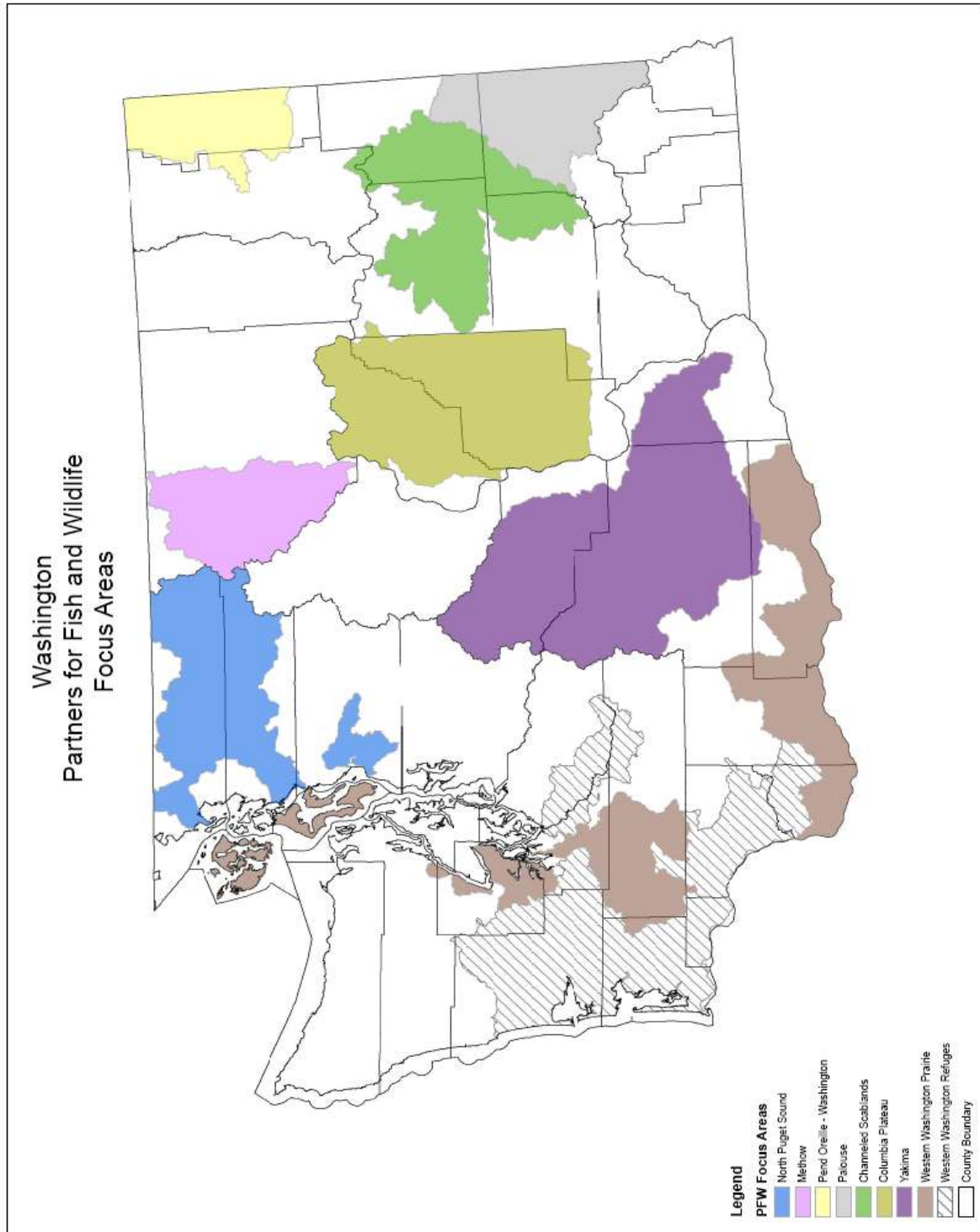
Focus Areas

To maximize effectiveness the Service, working with our partners, has identified strategic areas to focus our restoration efforts. While we can and do work in other areas of Washington State, We concentrate our efforts in areas identified on the maps below.

Map 1. Coastal Program Focus Areas in Western Washington



Map 2. Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program Focus Areas Washington



Project Development Assistance

Technical assistance in developing your project is available from the Service.

Table 3. Program Contacts

Restoration Program	Contact	Phone Number	E-mail
Puget Sound Coastal Program	Ginger Phalen	360-753-5819	ginger_phalen@fws.gov
	Rich Carlson	360-753-5829	rich_carlson@fws.gov
Partners for Fish and Wildlife in Columbia Plateau/ Shrub Steppe	Gregg Kurz	509-665-3508 ext. 2008	gregg_kurz@fws.gov
Partners for Fish and Wildlife in Yakima and Mid-Columbia	Richard Visser	509-575-5848 ext. 257	rvisser@usbr.gov
Partners for Fish and Wildlife in Upper Columbia	Robes Parrish	509-548-2983	robert_m_parrish@fws.gov
Partners for Fish and Wildlife in Eastern Washington	Gregg Kurz	509-665-3508 ext. 2008	gregg_kurz@fws.gov
Partners for Fish and Wildlife in Western Washington	J.F. (Paco) Rodriguez	360-753-4066	julio_rodriguez@fws.gov
Partners for Fish and Wildlife, Prairie Restoration in Western Washington	Judy Lantor	360-753-6056	judy_lantor@fws.gov
Partners for Fish and Wildlife, Western Washington Refuge Focus Area	Terri L Butler-Bates	360-484-3482	terri_butler-bates@fws.gov
Chehalis Fisheries Restoration Program	Miranda Plumb	360-753-9560	miranda_plumb@fws.gov
National Fish Passage Program in Western Washington	Miranda Plumb	360-753-9560	miranda_plumb@fws.gov
National Fish Passage Program in Central and Eastern Washington	Kate Terrell	509-548-2985	kate_terrell@fws.gov
Western Native Trout Initiative in Central and Eastern Washington	Kate Terrell	509-548-2985	kate_terrell@fws.gov
Western Native Trout Initiative in Western Washington	Miranda Plumb	360-753-9560	miranda_plumb@fws.gov
General Program Questions Environmental Assessment and Restoration Division Manager	Curtis Tanner	360-753-4326	curtis_tanner@fws.gov

Climate Change

The Service is committed to considering how species and habitats are affected by climate change. We seek projects that help species adapt to climate change and promote projects that are resilient to climate change.

Expected climate change impacts in Washington State are: changes in temperature, precipitation, snowpack, and hydrology; increases in intensity and frequency of fire, storm surges, and impacts from sea level rise; and shifts in the distribution and range of native and non-native species.

The project information will need to describe how the project promotes species adaptation and is resilient to climate change. Adaptation and resiliency may result from increased habitat connectivity, securing transitional habitats, restoring refugia, reducing fire risk, protecting water quality and quantity, restoring processes that form and maintain habitat, and protecting habitats from invasion by non-native species.

More information on climate change is available at:

<http://www.fws.gov/pacific/Climatechange/changepnw.html>

<http://cses.washington.edu/cig/res/ia/waccia.shtml>

Invasive Species

The Service is very concerned about the impacts invasive species are having in Washington State and across the Nation. Invasive species degrade, change, or displace native habitats and compete with native wildlife and are thus harmful to our fish, wildlife, and plant resources. Preventing the introduction or spread of invasive and non-target species is the most effective strategy to avoid impact to native ecosystems. Preventive measures typically offer the most cost-effective means to minimize or eliminate environmental and economic impacts due to invasive species.

The project information you provide should describe how invasive species prevention will be addressed during the planning and construction phase of the proposed project. Please answer the following questions when describing how you will control invasive species: 1) What species are you concerned about importing or exporting from the project site; 2) What methods are you considering to reduce the risk of spreading invasive species; and 3) How will the project site be monitored for invasive species and what steps can you take to control them if identified and it is deemed necessary to take action.

One method that can help your planning is called Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP). HACCP is a management tool that provides a structured method to identify risks and focus procedures on pathway's that spread invasive species. Understanding pathways and developing plans to reduce non-target species and prevent biological contamination is necessary to avoid unintended spread of invasive species. The manual for implementing HACCP is available at: <http://training.fws.gov/EC/Resources/pdf/HACCP%20Manual>

There is an on-line wizard that will help walk you through the development of a HACCP plan. The web site is: <http://www.haccp-nrm.org/wizard/actdesc.asp>

Please let us know on the project summary form if you plan to use HACCP as an invasive species management tool.

Eligible Program Activities

Subject to specific Program requirements (see Table 1.)

The Service works with our partners to advance all stages of project implementation. This can include funding and technical assistance for:

- Project feasibility assessment and design
- Environmental compliance
- Project construction and management
- Post construction project monitoring
- Outreach and education.

Riparian and Wetland

- Silviculture treatments (conifer release or interplanting, brush control)
- Reduction of livestock impacts (installation of fencing, crossings, and off-channel watering devices)
- Woody debris supplementation for amphibian and riparian dependent species habitat diversity
- Non-native plant and animal removal/control
- Native plant establishment/diversification
- Fill removal
- Hydrologic regime improvements (dike removal or , ditch plugging, drainage tile removal)
- Native species propagation (plants), introduction, re-establishment

Instream

- Fish passage improvements at man-made barriers
- Irrigation diversion fish screening
- Culvert replacements to improve fish passage using WDFW Stream Simulation or No-slope design criteria
- Culvert and associated fill removal to restore stream channel configuration
- Nutrient cycling supplementation (such as salmon carcass deployment)
- Placement of key wood pieces to induce large wood structures/jams
- Native species, propagation (plants), introduction, re-establishment
- Non-native plant and animal removal/control

Upland

- Prairie habitat restoration
- Road abandonment, decommissioning, obliteration
- Road drainage improvements and storm proofing
- Re-establishment of historic contours (sidecast pullback, fill of cuts, swale re-creation)
- Habitat diversity activities (creation of cavities, bat slits, snags, coarse woody debris)
- Silvicultural treatments (oak release, thinning/planting to benefit wildlife habitat)
- Non-native plant and animal removal/control
- Native plant establishment/diversification/enhancement
- Reduction of livestock impacts (installation of fencing to reduce competition with wildlife)
- Native species propagation (plants), introduction, re-establishment

Ineligible Program Activities

- Pond creation
- Cleanup of Federal or State designated environmental contaminant sites
- Community beautification and/or recreational access
- Fines/penalties due to non-compliance with Federal, State, or local laws
- Fish passage using WDFW Hydraulic Design criteria
- Gravel bar mining
- Gravel trap development or maintenance
- Improvement of natural resources for commercial or private profit
- Land acquisitions, conservation easements, or appraisals
- Required Habitat Conservation Plan activities
- Required mitigation
- Streambank hardening (rip-rap, bulkheads, or other armoring)
- Structure-based restoration planned without primary consideration of habitat protection, habitat connectivity, or habitat-forming processes

Cost Share Definition

Cost share, as defined for these Service Programs is the amount or percentage of the total project cost that the project partners contribute towards the project. For example: the estimated project cost is \$26,000, and the Service Program requires a 25% minimum cost share. The most that can be requested from the Service would be \$19,500, and project partners, would have to provide the remaining \$6,500. For all Programs, if provided cost share is higher than the minimum, a project is more likely to be support.

Cash: Funds that have been secured or are pending final approval from Federal, State, or private sources will be counted as eligible cost share. Project partners must differentiate between secured and pending cash cost share amounts.

In-Kind: Eligible in-kind cost share types include those services committed from other Federal, State, or private sources such as: labor, use of personnel equipment, surveying, or other contributions that would otherwise qualify for Program funds.

Ineligible in-kind cost share types include: value of the land, costs associated with unrelated or ineligible projects, and work performed by Service personnel.

Program Information

Puget Sound Coastal Program

The Puget Sound Coastal Program (PSCP) is part of the Service's National Coastal Program. In 1991, the PSCP was established to protect, restore, and enhance the natural resources of Washington's coastal ecosystems. We work closely with partners to conserve fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats in Puget Sound, an "estuary of national significance." Partnerships with other agencies, Native American Tribes, citizens, and organizations are emphasized. The PSCP has identified geographic focus areas. These areas are: North Puget Sound and the Eastern Strait of Juan de Fuca; South Puget Sound and Hood Canal (see Figure 1, Focus Areas in Western Washington). Projects occurring outside of the focus area boundaries are eligible; however, we prioritize partnership and project development within the focus areas. The PSCP typically provides financial assistance of less than \$50,000 for individual habitat restoration projects.

Goals:

- Restore and protect coastal habitats through completion of interagency projects; provide technical assistance in the restoration process; and provide cost share where appropriate.
- Use outreach and education to improve stewardship and conservation of Washington's coastal resources.
- Increase understanding and prevent the introduction and spread of coastal and marine non-native, invasive species.
- Support the strategic priorities of the Puget Sound Partnership and the Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project.
- Work with Federally Recognized Tribes to restore coastal habitats and species.

Types of projects preferred for PSCP:

Due to the highly developed and/or impacted state of most of our coastal resources in Washington, projects tend to be large and multi-partner in nature. Our primary focus is on-the-ground projects within the above mentioned focus areas. Example projects can include:

- Tide gate or dike removal to restore tidal hydrology to estuarine wetlands,
- Protection and restoration of estuarine and near-shore habitat,
- Removal of derelict fishing gear, and
- Protection and restoration of unique coastal upland habitats and coastal habitats that support federally listed species or species of concern.

Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program

The PFW Program is a national, voluntary habitat restoration program that provides technical and financial assistance to private landowners, Tribes and other conservation partners. The PFW Program focuses on restoring habitat for migratory birds, inter-jurisdictional fish, and declining plant and animal species. The PFW Program has identified geographic focus areas. These areas are: Western Washington prairies; Western Washington Refuges; Columbia Plateau/Shrub-steppe; Inland Northwest National Wildlife Refuge Stewardship Area (channeled scabland), the Methow and Yakima watersheds (see map 2.). Projects occurring outside of these focus area boundaries are eligible; however, we prioritize partnership and project development within the focus areas. Priority habitats in Washington include forests, wetlands, lakes, rivers and streams, riparian areas, prairies, and shrub-steppe. The PFW program typically provides financial assistance of \$25,000 or less for individual habitat restoration projects.

The Partners Program cannot fund work on state or federal property but can collaborate with state and federal agencies.

Goals:

- Develop partnerships through proactive, voluntary cooperative efforts with private landowners, nongovernmental organizations, other agencies, and Native Americans to restore habitat on private lands.
- Reestablish habitat function through restoration and/or enhancement activities;
- Improve water quality;
- Provide corridors and decrease impediments to native fish and wildlife migration;
- Enhance the environmental integrity of the National Wildlife Refuge System by restoring private lands that influence habitat on Refuge lands.

- Work with Federally Recognized Tribes to restore tribal trust species and their habitats.

Types of projects preferred for PFW:

Projects may include, but are not limited to:

- restoring native prairie and oak habitat;
- planting native trees and shrubs and other vegetation;
- installing fencing and off-stream livestock watering facilities;
- restoring wetland hydrology;
- removing stream blockages; and
- controlling invasive plants.

Chehalis Fisheries Restoration Program

Significant runs of salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat trout have declined throughout the Chehalis Basin, the second largest watershed in Washington. Commercial and sport fishing have greatly diminished in the area. The general goal of the CFRP is “to optimize natural salmon and steelhead production while maintaining the existing genetic adaptation of wild spawners and allowing the highest compatible level of hatchery production.” The CFRP works toward the recovery of Chehalis Basin fisheries by forming partnerships with private landowners, non-profit organizations, and local, tribal, and State agencies, and by implementing habitat restoration, habitat assessment, and public education projects. The CFRP typically provides financial assistance of less than \$50,000 for individual habitat restoration projects.

Objectives:

- Improve water quality in Inner Grays Harbor and the Upper Chehalis River Basin.
- Restore or improve natural spawning and rearing habitat.
- Extend the range of wild spawning anadromous fish to achieve optimum habitat use.
- Increase public awareness of fisheries habitat restoration values in the Chehalis Basin.

Types of projects preferred for CFRP:

Projects may include, but are not limited to the following: On the ground projects in watersheds that are in relatively good condition, have ongoing restoration, and that have a completed watershed assessment will receive priority. Assessment projects that fill identified data gaps in existing watershed assessments will receive priority. Outreach projects that are established and successful or that are innovative will receive priority.

National Fish Passage Program

The National Fish Passage Program is a voluntary program to restore native fish and other aquatic species to self-sustaining levels by reconnecting habitat that has been fragmented by man-made barriers. Fish passage projects restore unimpeded flows and fish movement by removing barriers or providing ways for aquatic species to bypass them. Projects are prioritized based upon the benefits to species and the geographical area. Typical projects include barrier culvert removal or replacement with a fish passable culvert or bridge and re-opening oxbow and off channel habitats. Typical funding amounts range from \$15,000 to \$80,000 with a minimum 25% cost share requested. Funding decisions for this program have typically been made at the USFWS Regional Office in Portland, Oregon.

Types of projects preferred for funding under the NFPP are those that:

- Show demonstrable ecological benefits for Federal trust species.

- Exhibit permanence of fish passage benefits.
- Make use of the most current scientific knowledge and proven technology.
- Address objectives outlined in approved management plans.

Local offices help with the development and evaluation of projects for NFPP. For assistance and information on for NFPP please contact:

Western Washington:

Miranda Plumb

(360) 753-9560

miranda_plumb@fws.gov

Eastern Washington:

Kate Terrell

509-548-2985

kate_terrell@fws.gov

More information on the NFPP is available at the following internet site:

<http://pacific.fws.gov/fisheries/fishpassage/>

Western Native Trout Initiative

The Western Native Trout Initiative (www.westernnativetrout.org) is a fish habitat partnership within the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (www.fishhabitat.org). It is a nationwide strategy that harnesses the energies, expertise, and existing partnerships of State and Federal agencies and conservation organizations. It is a non-regulatory, science-based, cooperative program to fund conservation actions for western native trout. The goals of the Program include:

- protect and maintain intact and healthy aquatic systems,
- prevent further degradation of fish and aquatic habitats, and
- increase self-sustaining aquatic systems that support a broad natural diversity of fish and other aquatic species.

Projects are prioritized based upon the benefits to species and the geographical area.

Although funding decisions for this program is made by a multi-agency organization; local offices help with the development and evaluation of projects for WNTI. For assistance and information on for WNTI please contact:

Western Washington:

Miranda Plumb

(360) 753-9560

miranda_plumb@fws.gov

Eastern Washington:

Kate Terrell

509-548-2985

kate_terrell@fws.gov